

Dear editors of assignment desks:

5th November 2010

Press Release

Hong Kong Adventist Hospital introduced the world's most advanced scanning system-the Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)

(Hong Kong- For Immediate Release) In August, the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital introduced the world's most advanced and only Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) scanning system at Hong Kong's private hospitals. The system allows doctors to accurately evaluate whether a stent is placed close to the vessel wall of a heart disease patient to lower his or her chances of a heart attack. The scan can also give insights in to any blood clots prior to the operation.

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) is a computer based tomography imaging system with the world's highest definition. Its resolution is as high as 10µm, producing images 10 times clearer than those captured by intravascular ultrasound. Its scanning speed is also more than 10 times faster than ultrasound. This enables doctors to obtain quick and accurate visuals of the patient's cardiovascular thrombosis condition.

Advantages of OCT:

- Produces images so clear it's like observing through a microscope. It can also instantly and directly observe the effects of any treatments. Through the OCT, doctors can inspect if the stent is fitted close enough to the vessel wall during a patient's percutaneous coronary intervention. If not, doctors can make prompt adjustments.
- Can effectively monitor if there is a stenosis condition. OCT also displays large cholesterol plaques better than older methods.
- Better understanding of the patient's condition if a disease recurs: Blood clots could form a few years after a patient has been fitted with a stent. This may lead to acute myocardial infarction. OCT can clearly show the buildup of blood clots and the information can assist doctors to advise appropriate treatment.

Heart disease is the number two “killer” in Hong Kong, with coronary heart disease as the major cause of death. Coronary heart disease patients often require coronary artery by-pass surgery or angioplasty procedure. With the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital’s introduction of the state-of-the-art scanning equipment, all coronary heart patients and those who have had an angioplasty operation can now have their coronary arteries monitored through OCT. The whole procedure is very simple and takes just a few seconds. The Hong Kong Adventist Hospital believes the new equipment can really benefit patients and aid their recovery.

About Hong Kong Adventist Hospital

Hong Kong Adventist Hospital is a non-profitable private hospital. Throughout the years, blessed with Christian faith, the hospital has strived to provide quality medical and nursing care to the local community and expatriates residing in Hong Kong.

The hospital has always sought to provide patients a wide-range of specialist medical services with high-tech equipment in a personalized setting, and the quiet and comfortable environment helps puts patients at ease prior to their surgery.

For successive years since 2000, the hospital has been accredited by the United Kingdom’s TREN T Accreditation Scheme. In 2006, the hospital also became the first hospital in Hong Kong and Macau to receive full accreditation from the Joint Commission International (JCI). In 2010, Hong Kong Adventist Hospital was accredited by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). Such international recognition is testimony to the high-quality services provided at Hong Kong Adventist Hospital.

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